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A SELECTION FROM THE LIFE OF SAMUEL JOHNSON. By James Boswell, edited with notes and an introduction, by Max J. Herzeberg. New York and Boston: D. C. Heath & Company.

The attempt has been made in the actual selections to have Boswell tell (despite the large omissions) in his own words a story as nearly consecutive as possible, in which the gaps should not be too obtrusive.

Problems of Religion by Durant Drake (Houghton, 1916) has the same merits as its companion, *Problems of Conduct*. Both of these text-books are interesting, clear, succinct, sane, stimulating, well put together. Professor Drake's "Religion" is exceedingly up to date, and is hence an exponent of "minimum" Christianity. But it is an admirable thing for college students and the cultured general reader to get clear-cut statements of a religion that can be confessed by reverent and rational minds. The author's acceptance of the "liberal Protestant" form of the "moral influence" theory of the Atonement is a sufficient indication that his plummet has not gone very deep. Nevertheless the book does much to make the study of religion an acceptable part of general culture.

T. P. B.

Edgar W. Wright, Professor of Education in Trinity College, North Carolina, has written a text-book on *Public School Education in North Carolina* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1916.). The work is careful and scholarly, though not exactly exciting in its interest. On page 216 the author corrects one of Professor Albert Bushnell Hart's "inaccurate generalities." Says Hart (*Present South*): ". . . As for public schools, not a single Southern State had organized and set in operation a system before the Civil War." The author replies: "A careful study of conditions in other sections of the country shows a striking similarity to conditions in the Southern States." State Superintendent Joyner contributes the concluding chapter of the book.

T. P. B.